GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2127
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
TELECOM FACILITY
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who are on the waiting list for telephone connections in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections provided during the last three years, State wise;

(c) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared;

(d) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(e) the amount spent on the installation and maintenance of such telephone exchanges during the last three years;

(f) whether the Government propose to provide additional facilities such as Caller-ID and Video conferencing facilities in landline telephone sets; and
(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in the country as on 31/01/2001, State-wise are as per Annexure-I.

(b) the number of telephone connections provided during the last three years, State-wise are as per annexure-II.

(c) It has been envisaged to provide telephone connection on demand in the country by 31/03/2002 progressively with the participation of private sector complementing the efforts of the service PSUs(Public Sector Undertakings) of Ministry of Communications.

(d) The number of telephone exchanges functioning in the country as on 31/01/2001, State-wise are as per Annexure-III.

(e) The amount spent on the installation and maintenance of telephone exchanges during the last three years is as under:

Year	Amount (Crores)
1997-98	8207.28
1998-99	9067.33
1999-2000	11389.58

(f) & (g): There is no proposal at present to provide Caller-ID/Video conferencingfacilities in the telephone sets. However, Integrated Digital Services Network (ISDN) can be used for Video conferencing purpose.Telephone sets with video conferencing facility are available in the market which can be purchased by subsriber with interface approval from Telecom Engineering Centre for usage on the ISDN lines.Similarly the Caller-ID may also be maintained by the subscriber using specific telephone instruments.Such instruments will have to be purchased by the subscribers themselves.